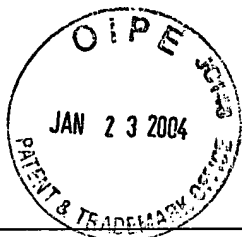


Image

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PATENT

Case Docket No. IGARA29.001AUS

Date: January 21, 2004

Page 1

In re application of : Nishita, Naoki
Appl. No. : 10/024,655
Filed : December 14, 2001
For : OPTICAL CONNECTOR
HAVING A LIGHT
EMITTING ELEMENT
AND A CONVERGENT
LENS

Examiner: Lin, Tina M.

Art Unit: 2874

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

January 21, 2004

(Date)

Mark M. Abumeri, Reg. No. 43,458

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application are:

- (X) An Information Disclosure Statement.
- (X) A PTO Form 1449 with one (1) reference.
- (X) A check in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the above fee is enclosed.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.

Mark M. Abumeri
Registration No. 43,458
Attorney of Record.
Customer No. 20,995
(619) 235-8550

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In re application of : Nishita, Naoki
Appl. No. : 10/024,655
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For : OPTICAL CONNECTOR HAVING A
LIGHT EMITTING ELEMENT AND A
CONVERGENT LENS

Examiner:
Lin, Tina M.

Art Unit:
2874

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Commissioner for Patents
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Dear Sir:

Enclosed is form PTO-1449 listing one (1) reference that is also enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or after the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311. This Statement is accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or to credit any overpayment to Account No. 11-1410. A certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is set forth below.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated:

January 21, 2004

By:

Mark M. Abumeri
Registration No. 43,458
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(619) 235-8550

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|---|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| FORM PTO-1449 | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | ATTY. DOCKET NO. IGARA29.001AUS | APPLICATION NO. 10/024,655 |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (USE SEVERAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY) | | APPLICANT Nishita, Naoki | |
| | | FILING DATE December 14, 2001 | GROUP 2874 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE (IF APPROPRIATE) |
|---------------------|----|-----------------|----------|-------|-------|----------|---------------------------------|
| | 1. | 5,751,878 | 05/12/98 | Kyoya | | | |
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| *EXAMINER: INITIAL IF CITATION CONSIDERED, WHETHER OR NOT CITATION IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH MPEP 609; DRAW LINE THROUGH CITATION IF NOT IN CONFORMANCE AND NOT CONSIDERED, INCLUDE COPY OF THIS FORM WITH NEXT COMMUNICATION TO APPLICANT. | |